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THE VISION OF Humphrey Smith,

Which he saw concerning

LONDON,

In the fifth month, in the year 1660. being not long after her KING came into her.

The Prophet speaking of the pouring forth of the Spirit in the later dayes saith, That then the young men shall see visions. Joel 2. 28.

And the wise King said where there is no Vision the people perish. Pro. 29. 18.

And the true Minister of Christ said, I will come to Visions and Revelations of the Lord. 2 Cor. 12. 1.

Concerning the Great City of London.

I Beheld all her waters which belonged to her frozen up, and that exceeding hard, and the vessels which went upon them, so that I and others passed over her waters without the least danger, and over the greatest vessels which had carried her merchandize; For all was frozen with a mighty freezing, whereby all her goodly merchandize were stopt, and her mighty swift waters were turned into a mighty thick frozen ice, which stood still, so that her pleasant streams ran no more.

And as for the City her ſelf and her ſuburbs, and all that belonged to her, a fire was kindled therein, but ſhe knew not how, even in all her goodly places, and the kindling of it was in the foundations of all her buildings, and there was none could quench it, for it was like an inviſible fire, neither was there any able, neither did any ſeek to quench it; and the burning thereof was exceeding great, and it burned inward in a hidden manner, which cannot be expreſſed, and the fire conſumed all foundations which the City ſtood upon, and all the tall buildings fell, and it conſumed all the lofty things therein, and the fire ſearched out all the hidden places, and burned moſt in the ſecret places, yet very little of the fire appeared, but the conſumation was exceeding great, wherewith it conſumed every thing.

And as I paſſed through her ſtreets, I beheld her ſtate to be very miſerable, and very few were thoſe that were left in her, who were but here and there one, and they feared not the fire, neither did the burnings hurt them, but they were (and walked) as mournfull dejected people, and the fire burned every where, ſo that there was no eſcaping of it; And thus ſhe became a deſolation, and as an aſtoniſhment, for the burning was of God, and could never be quenched nor overcome; and in the midſt of her waters was the veſſel of her merchandize frozen up, that none could move it, and there was none that ſought to ſtop the burning, and the fire conſumed all things both ſtone and timber, and it burned under all things and under all foundations, And that which was lifted up above it fell down, and the fire conſumed it, and the burning continued; for though the foundation was burnt up, and all the lofty part brought down (by the fire) yet there was much old ſtuffe, and part of broken deſolate walls and buildings in the midſt, which the fire continued burning againſt; And that which was taken as to make uſe of, which yet eſcaped the fire, became uſeleſſe in mans hand as a thing of nought. And the Viſion hereof remained in me as a thing that was ſecretly ſhewed me of the Lord.

And now let her wiſe men find out the matter, and her prudent men read the Parable, and her Divines *(ſo called) interpret the Viſion, (And let her know that her day is at hand) And let every one of them look to their own wayes.*

And as for thee, O City of *London*, thy ſin hath been exceeding grievous, and thy iniquities beyond meaſure; Who can number thy daily tranſgreſſions, or ſet before thee the multitude of thy abominations? Oh! thy waies have grieved the Lord, and thy works have oppreſſed the juſt, and the Lord will ſurely plead with thee, whom thou haſt long rebelled againſt, and walked in thy pride, and nouriſhed thy ſelf in voluptuouſneſſe, as a beaſt for the ſlaughter, and in arrogancy hath thy ſteps

been

been found, Oh! thy heart hath been defiled, and thy waies are waies of grievousnesse, and thy paths are polluted before the Lord, and thou hast not done the thing that is just in his sight, but hast chosen thy own waies, and trusted in thy own wisdom. Take heed now therefore, O City of *London*, for God will be too strong for thee, and thy strength shall fall before him, and thou must come to an account for thy deeds, and then where will be thy refuge, or what shall be thy shelter? will thy multitude of men deliver thee from God, or the greatnesse of thy strength prevail against the Almighty? If so, then mayest thou stand in thy waies O City of *London*, but if not, thy misery will be great, and who shall bemoan thee in that day, or pity thee in the time of thy distresse? Forasmuch as thou hast refused the counsel of the Lord, and rejected the voyce of his servants in the midst of thee, and hearkned not to his word in thy own bowels, but also slighted the many warnings of the Lord by his servants, who were sent of him in love to thee, that thou might come to serve him, and not thy own pleasure, proceeding on from year to year like a monstrous woman, who regardeth not the voice nor person of husband nor friend; Oh! what shall be said unto thee? must thou needs be left for desolation? and must thou be left as a woman forsaken? will thy lovers help thee in the day of trouble? or thy delightsome pleasures preserve thy heart from judgement, or thy glorious riches hide thee from the burning torments? If thou lovest thy wages of vanity more then God, and thy hearts lust more than thy Maker, and wilt not turn speedily from it to seek the Lord in thy heart, then mayest thou post on (as thou art going) hastily to the pit, and with much eagernesse to the gulf of misery, where none can help thee; And then will thy feasting be turned into famine, thy beauty into dust, thy glory into shame, and thy honour into contempt, as thou hast seen it come to pass upon others, whose glory and strength was as great as thine, by whom thou hast not taken warning by a through and speedy returning unto thy Lord with all thy heart.

Therefore will God search thee and judge thee according to what is found in the midst of thee, and thou shalt be awakned in the day of Gods anger, & be sensible of the torment when it cometh; For though God hath also tried thee with giving thee thy hearts desire, yet hast thou not been thereby humbled; and though the Lord hath visited thee in loving kindnesse, yet hast thou walked loftily; nay moreover thou hast taken occasion thereby to be the more exalted, and art going in the steps of them that the Lord so lately (for such things) overturned before thee, that it cannot yet be forgotten, and dost Thou or the Rulers in thee think to establish your selves by acting such things, for which God overturned

many mightier then you? Therefore O City think not to eſtabliſh thy ſelf by blood, nor to be ſetled by way of revenge, for though ſome men may have done ſome things unjuſt againſt ſome of you (and others) ſo that God may juſtly by you ſcourge them ſore for it, yet wherein you do it in the way of revenge, or to avenge your own cauſe, or to ſet up your ſelves in ſelf ends like them before you, therein God will alſo find out a ſcourge for you. And this I have ſeen that the Great men of the earth ſtand in ſlippery places, and their great ſtrength before the Lord is as ſmoak before the wind.

My counſell is therefore, *That thou fear the Lord, and turn from the way that thou art in*, and let thy Judges know that the Lord will judge them, and let thy Rulers underſtand that the Lord will rule over their ſtrength and wiſdom, and let thy Teachers perceive that God is come to teach his own children. And let the Kings heart be upright before the Lord in this the day of his tryall, and time of viſitation from God, (*the ſhortneſſe or length thereof being hid from him, over whom God ruleth as it pleaſeth him,*) who is cutting his work ſhort in righteouſneſſe; Therefore let all thy inhabitants, *O thou great City*, from the higheſt to the loweſt, take good heed unto their waies, and the intents which are in them, for the Lord ſeeth the ſecrets of all your hearts. *H. S.*

AND that thou mayeſt not altogether diſeſteem of this viſion concerning thee, and that thy wiſe men may not eſteem it as a thing of nought (which is publiſhed for thy good, and brought forth for thy warning, and declared to ſet before thee thy ſtate at hand, that thou mighteſt be warned before-hand, and come to find ſomething in thy ſelf, whereby thou might ſtand in the day of triall, and endure in the hour of trouble, or otherwiſe Gods ſervants might ſeale up the viſions and revelations of God in the book of ſecrets, and treaſure them up in the enlightned chambers of the heart, where God is revealing his ſecrets to thoſe that fear him) Therefore ſhall I write what hath been formerly ſhewed, moſt whereof being come to paſſe, and the reſt haſteneth.

In my former viſion, in the dayes of the former Rulers, I ſaw on a hill many trees together ſtanding which were both great and tall, but they were very old, and of a long ſtanding, and many of their lofty boughs were broken and battered, and many hanged downward, which preſſed down the trees, and they were old, withering, and decaying, and had not grown along time, & were but as a wonder to the beholders, though they had been of great account, and the chief trees among (or over) the reſt; and it was ſo that I beheld them much, even with admiration, to

ſee ſuch trees in ſuch a ſtate, which was more to this purpoſe than is here expreſt; and I beheld untill all theſe trees were rooted up out of the earth, and ſo overturned every one, and their dead bodies lay in a confuſed manner, and were fallen one upon another, and the ground upon which they ſtood was broken up, and then there was ſome room and liberty, and light came in, and I walked and looked every way, both upon the light, and the great deſolation of theſe great ones. *The interpretation whereof may be read by ſuch as can but ſee.*

And though this *great overturning* befell thoſe great, tall, and ſtrong trees, and that light came into that ground, over which thoſe fruitleſſe trees ſtood, yet I beheld round about, and near unto it much briars, brambles, and thorns in abundance, which covered the earth, and it was ſuch rubbiſh, that it was never like to be fit for any thing, but to have a fire kindled among it; And it was ſo thick and ſo ſtrong that there was no paſſing in nor through it, but onely where the narrow way was, and there alſo thoſe briars would catch on every ſide; And he that paſſed through muſt ſtoop very low; And what thoſe briars and thorns were, let thoſe brambles read, who covered the earth with their multitudes, in raging, ſwearing, curſing, ſhouting, roaring, and drinking the health, (as they call it) of their King at his coming.

And near unto the place of the deſtruction of thoſe great trees, was there a Child in great deſolation, in a cloſe place, where it had been a long time, and was not like yet to be releaſed, but remained in want and miſery, which mine eye pitied, and in irons, and my heart was ſadned for it, and the more becauſe none came to viſit it, nor ſuccour it; for it was in a deſolate place, and unſeemly, and few had regard unto it, and yet there were ſome hopes it might be delivered. *And this was a true reſemblance of the ſtate of the ſeed of God in all the world.*

And in plainneſſe concerning *Oliver Cromwell*, and his ſon *Richard*, (late called) *Protectors*, the viſion from God was ſhewed to me, (before the downfall of either of them) thus.

And I beheld a great and mighty tree, much bigger then ever I ſaw before, and appearing without ſap or vertue in it, or leaf, bough, or branch upon it, (much leſſe fruit) and the top of it was broad, (being all big) much like unto the top of *Pauls* ſteeple in *London*, and cloſe by this great old tree, grew up another tree, as out of his root, and belonged to him, but not both in one body, though very near together, and ſtood both upon one foundation, and this was as a little ſtripling tree, which alſo was without leaves, or branches, or any thing to bear fruit, ſo that I admired to ſee it ſo with the young tree, for I looked for branches or leaves, but there were none.

And

And whilst I was beholding of them, a man being sent came in much haste, with an axe in his hand, to cut down the great mighty old tree, which seemed strange to me, that one man should adventure upon so great a work, to cut down such a tree as that, for the lower part of the tree was exceeding big, and almost as broad upon the earth as half the heighth; so that I thought he had need of three more to help him, and that one man could scarce cut him down with one axe, if he stood hewing all his life time; But I much more admired to see the confidence of the man that came with speed with his axe, who made no stop at all, because of the greatnesse of him, nor any thing else, but as soon as ever he could get to him smote with the edge of his axe, and stroke between the ground and the tree, so that I soon perceived he intended to separate between the tree and the ground on which he stood; and the man in the might of his strength, stroke but three blows in all, but he separated the tree from the earth on which he stood, and immediately the tree fell with a mighty overthrow, and the foundation of the tree was altogether rotten and not one root at all, but where the root should be was rottennesse, and the earth shook at his fall, and many Great men stood amazed, and fear seized on many, because of the great sudden fall thereof.

And as this great tree fell, I saw under the foundation of the young *Tall Tree* that stood near the other, and it was much like to fall presently after, and was almost down on the one hand, and then almost down on the other, and yet it recovered and stood up for a time, having no root but rottennesse; And the great tree fell from him on the one side, and the earth parted from him on two sides more, so that onely upon one side in four (or less) the earth cleaved to him, and he being slender and tall without root, was not like long thus to stand, *neither did Richard.*

And I likewise beheld many more smaller trees, and the man with his axe in his hand cut them all down at the butt, somewhat above the ground, and so left the stumps in the earth, and therefore it might be possible for them to grow up again; *As some did come up again who were put down, but fell the second time through disobedience.*

And after all this I beheld also many more trees in abundance, yea more numerous then the other, coming up out of the earth, and covering the face thereof, and growing up apace, which were not yet ready to be cut down; and I saw the man with the axe in his hand, standing still for a time (having cut down all the other) untill those should be ready to be cut down; and he waited till the time came, and was in a readinesse with his axe in his hand ready to strike, when those abundance of trees should come up to their growth, which hastened. And let those who are now come up read this, and let the whole City of

London

London take heed (as I said before) and repent with speed, and turn to the Lord, whose servant I am, called *Humphrey Smith.*

POSTSCRIPT.

WHen those people to whom God gave his Ordinances and his Statutes had long resisted and grieved his Spirit in them, who said *I am God and not man, the Holy One in the midst of thee*, and had also refused plain Instructions, then the Lord sent them the Prophet *Isaiah*, who said *With stammering tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people*; And for a Sign was he sent *to walk naked among them.* And the Prophet *Ezekiel* was sent with that which they might esteem dark Visions and foolish Signes, (which were many) and hard sayings. And *Jeremiah* he lamented over them. And all the Lords Prophets proclaimed against their Priests and leaders of them, *which caused them to erre*, and yet would they not be warned, nor their Priests leave preaching Peace unto them, nor they leave following their Priests untill they had crucified the Just, and denied him that is *the Light*, who saveth his People from their sins; and *Jerusalem* became a heap, and a desolation, and an astonishment; and so both Priests and People went into destruction and captivity together. And thy sins, O *London!* may be equalized with hers, and are as many, and as grievous, and that thou mayest a little the better understand my Vision concerning thee, therefore have I written these later things that concerned others, which if thou understand not, that which concerns thee is more mysterious.

THE END.

LONDON,

Printed for *Thomas Simmons*, at the sign of the *Bull* and *Mouth*, near *Aldersgate*, 1660.

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